



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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West Virginia Commercial Trout Sales Down

West Virginia -- There were 26 operations that produced trout for sale and/or distribution in 2005. Seventeen operations were commercial producers, while 14 operations distributed trout/trout eggs for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes. The 17 commercial trout producers in West Virginia had a total value of fish sales of 348 thousand dollars for the 12 month period from January 1, 2005 - December 31, 2005. This was a 50 percent decrease from the 694 thousand dollars in fish sales during the same period in 2004. Fish 12 inches or longer accounted for 95 percent of total sales of fish sold. Trout losses for the period totaled 32,000 pounds, down from last year's 59,000 pounds.

The value of trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes is estimated at 1.82 million dollars, down 16 percent from the 2004 value of 2.16 million dollars.

United States -- The total value of all sales, both fish and eggs, received by trout growers in the 20 selected States totaled 74.2 million dollars during 2005, an increase of 4 percent from 2004. For the Nation, sales of fish totaled 69.1 million dollars for 2005, while egg sales totaled 5.14 million dollars. The State of Idaho accounted for 51 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold during 2005 totaled 55.5 million fish, up 12 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.05, up 2 cents from 2004. The value of sales for the 2005 marketing year was 62.6 million dollars, up 5 percent from 2004. Based on the dollar value, 67 percent were sold to processors and 19 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments.

The number of **6"- 12" trout** sold during 2005 totaled 4.79 million fish, a decrease of 13 percent from 2004. The average price per pound was \$2.82 during 2005, up 13 cents from the 2004 price. The total value of sales was 5.18 million dollars during 2005, an 11 percent decrease from the previous year. The major sales outlet for 6"-12" trout was to fee and recreational fishing establishments accounting for 51 percent of the total sales, followed by government agencies with 20 percent.

The number of **1"- 6" trout** sold during 2005 totaled 7.06 million, a 27 percent increase from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$187.00 during 2005, a \$13.00 increase from 2004. The total value of sales was 1.32 million dollars, up 37 percent from last year's total.

Trout egg sales in 2005 totaled 307 million eggs, up 6 percent from the 290 million eggs sold during the previous year. The average value per 1,000 eggs during 2005 was \$16.70, unchanged from 2004. The total value of trout egg sales during 2005 was 5.14 million dollars, an increase of 6 percent from the 4.83 million dollars in egg sales during the previous year.

Distributed Trout -- Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 6.34 million 12" or longer fish, 52.0 million 6"-12", and 52.6 million fingerlings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 74.3 million dollars, up 19 percent from 2004.

Losses of Fish -- Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 32.1 million fish during 2005. The top three categories were 51 percent lost to disease, 19 percent to drought, and 21 percent to "other" causes. Losses to trout raised for distribution were primarily due to disease (62 percent) and predators (28 percent).

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TROUT VALUE OF SALES (excluding eggs), 2004-2005

State	12" and longer		6"-12" Size		1" - 6" Size		Total Value of Fish Sold	
	2004+	2005	2004+	2005	2004	2005	2004+	2005
Thousand Dollars								
AR**								
CA	4,312	5,317	680	565	138	195	5,130	6,077
CO	576	952	*	*	*	*	991	1,480
CT	*	*	*	*	*	*	360	411
GA	827	830	*	14	*	*	935	844
ID	34,320	35,316	*	*	*	*	34,564	35,387
ME	*	*	*	*	*	*	212	178
MA	158	157	*	*	*	*	363	396
MI	601	634	167	*	22	*	790	793
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,637	2,649
NY	262	251	179	207	37	49	478	507
NC	5,437	5,699	217	437	255	454	5,909	6,590
OR	486	405	310	*	11	*	807	803
PA	3,335	3,960	821	760	67	87	4,223	4,807
TN	134	247	*	*	*	*	181	291
UT	421	466	*	68	*	6	760	540
VA	808	992	*	248	*	16	924	1,256
WA	3,969	3,403	693	402	130	319	4,792	4,124
WV	658	330	*	*	*	*	694	348
WI	1,072	1,297	332	244	61	32	1,465	1,573
Other States	2,021	2,298	2,453	2,235	245	162	--	--
Total	59,397	62,554	5,852	5,180	966	1,320	66,215	69,054
+ Revised								
* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations								
** Arkansas reported trout only for distribution and no sales								

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